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Carri Grube Lybarker Administrator/ Consumer Advocate

PROTECTING CONSUMERS SINCE 1975

Commissioners **David Campbell** Chair Columbia W. Fred Pennington, Jr. Vice Chair Simpsonville **Mark Hammond** Secretary of State Columbia William Geddings **Florence** James E. Lewis Myrtle Beach Renee I. Madden Columbia Jack Pressly Columbia Lawrence D. Sullivan Summerville

January 5, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Jocelyn Boyd Chief Clerk/Executive Director The Public Service Commission of South Carolina 101 Executive Center Drive Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: Docket No. 2023-388-E

Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Authority to Adjust and Increase Its Electric Rates and Charges

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Please find enclosed for filing the Petition to Intervene and Notice of Appearance on behalf of the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs. As indicated on the Certificate of Service, all parties of record will be served via electronic mail.

Regards,

Roger Hall, Esq.

Deputy Consumer Advocate

Enclosures

CC w/ Enclosure: Parties of Record (via email)

ADMINISTRATOR Tel.: (803) 734-4233

PUBLIC INFORMATION Tel.: (803) 734-4296 CONSUMER ADVOCACY Tel.: (803) 734-4200 LEGAL/ LICENSING Tel.: (803) 734-0046 CONSUMER COMPLAINTS Tel.: (803) 734-4200 ID THEFT UNIT Tel.: (803) 434-4200 PROCUREMENT & ACCOUNTING
Tel.: (803) 734-4264

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION DOCKET NO. 2023-388-E

IN RE:	
Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Authority to Adjust and Increase Its Electric Rates and Charges)) PETITION TO INTERVENE))

Carri Grube Lybarker, Administrator and Consumer Advocate for the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs ("Department"), respectfully petitions the South Carolina Public Service Commission ("Commission") for permission to intervene in the above referenced Docket pursuant to R. 103-825 of the Commission's rules of practice and procedure. In support of this petition, Petitioner states as follows:

- 1. Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC has filed an application with the Commission requesting approval for authority to adjust and increase its rates and charges for electricity service to its customers.
- 2. Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 37-6-604 (2018), the Department may provide legal representation of the consumer interest before state and federal regulatory agencies when such agencies undertake to fix rates or prices for consumer products or services and may intervene as a party to advocate for the interest of consumers before the South Carolina Public Service Commission. In that capacity the Department does hereby petition to intervene as a formal party of record in Docket No. 2023-388-E
- 3. The Department works to avoid excessive, inadequate, and unwarranted rate increases; however, a position has not yet been fully developed on this matter. Petitioner reserves the right to set forth her position more fully as necessary and appropriate as this proceeding moves forward.

4. Counsel representing the Consumer Advocate/Department in this proceeding are:

Carri Grube Lybarker, Esquire

Roger P. Hall, Esquire

Jacob D. Edwards, Esquire

S.C. Department of Consumer Affairs

293 Greystone Blvd., Suite 400

P.O. Box 5757

Columbia, South Carolina 29250-5757

Phone: (803) 734-0045

Email: clybarker@scconsumer.gov

Email: rhall@scconsumer.gov

Email: jedwards@scconsumer.gov

5. The Consumer Advocate/Department consent to service via electronic mail and request all communications regarding this docket be directed to counsel of record noted above.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner, in order to represent the consumer interest of the State of South Carolina, requests the Commission grant this Petition to Intervene and make Petitioner a formal party of record, allowing Petitioner to actively participate in this proceeding.

Carri Grube Lybarker, Esquire Administrator / Consumer Advocate

By: s/ Carri Grube Lybarker

S.C. Department of Consumer Affairs

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P.O. Box 5757

Columbia, South Carolina 29250-5757

Phone: (803) 734-0045

January 5, 2024 Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION DOCKET NO. 2023-388-E

IN RE:	
Application of Duke Energy Carolinas LLC for Authority to Adjust and Increase Its Electric Rates and Charges	NOTICE OF APPEARANCE OF COUNSEL

Please take notice that Carri Grube Lybarker, Consumer Advocate for the State of South Carolina and Administrator of the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs, Roger P. Hall, Deputy Consumer Advocate, and Jacob D. Edwards, Assistant Consumer Advocate, give notice of appearance in the above-captioned matter. Pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 37-6-604 the Consumer Advocate may intervene as a party to advocate for the interest of consumers before the Public Service Commission and appellate courts in such matters as the Consumer Advocate deems necessary and appropriate. Any further information or correspondence filed with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina should also be served on the undersigned counsel.

s/Roger P. Hall

Carri Grube Lybarker, Esquire Roger P. Hall, Esquire Jacob D. Edwards, Esquire **S.C. Department of Consumer Affairs** 293 Greystone Blvd., Suite 400 P.O. Box 5757 Columbia, South Carolina 29250-5757

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January 5, 2024 Columbia, South Carolina

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION DOCKET NO. 2023-388-E

IN RE:)
Application of Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC for Authority to Adjust and Increase Its Electric Rates and Charges	CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE)

I hereby certify I have caused to be served this day the Petition to Intervene and Notice of Appearance to the individuals listed below via electronic mail as follows:

Joshua E. Austin jaustin@ors.sc.gov

Donna L. Rhaney drhaney@ors.sc.gov

Camal O. Robinson

Camal.Robinson@duke-energy.com

John C. "Chad" Torri ctorri@ors.sc.gov

s/<u>Roger Hall</u> Roger Hall, Esquire

January 5, 2024 Columbia, South Carolina